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U.S. Department of the Interior

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Biosphere Reserve  
World Heritage Site

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## Glacier National Park News Release

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For Immediate Release

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### **Phased Re-Opening of Many Glacier Hotel and Swiftcurrent Inn Planned**

*Despite Some Closings, Much of Glacier Remains Open*

WEST GLACIER, MONT.- Glacier National Park Superintendent Mick Holm announced Friday that preliminary plans are being made for a phased re-opening of Many Glacier Hotel and Swiftcurrent Inn, which could begin with concession employees as early as Saturday.

“We want to re-open the area as quickly as possible,” Holm said. “But the most important factor is always the safety of our visitors, concession staff, park service employees and firefighters.”

Efforts are underway to secure additional fire fighting resources in the Many Glacier area as a precaution. In addition, a check-in/check-out program is being established in the event fire conditions change and another evacuation is ordered.

“Once both of those are in place and barring any change in the conditions,” Glacier National Park Chief of Concessions Management Jan Knox said, “employees at Many Glacier Hotel and Swiftcurrent Inn, as well as Glacier Park Boat Company, will be allowed back into the area. Employees would be able to return to prepare the facilities for guests.” A decision is expected to be made Saturday.

Weather and potential fire conditions will be continually monitored. If it is determined it is safe for guests to return, that could begin as early as Monday. Hotel and Inn guests can call Glacier Park Incorporated’s reservation number for further information. That number is (406) 892-2525.

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“I feel very comfortable with a phased-in return to Many Glacier when the safety measures are in place” Trapper Creek Complex Incident Commander Wayne Cook said.

The Many Glacier Valley was evacuated Thursday because of the potential for high winds to spread the Trapper Creek Fire into the valley. Firefighters monitoring the fire say the rocky terrain along the Continental Divide is currently containing it.

While a temporary evacuation remains in effect in the Lake McDonald Valley, other areas of the park, including St. Mary, Two Medicine, East Glacier, Belly River, Rising Sun and Goat Haunt remain open to visitors. In addition, the Going-to-the-Sun Road is open from St. Mary to Logan Pass.

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